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SUBJECT: BELGIANS SUPPORT AUTONOMOUS SANCTIONS AGAINST IRAN

REF: SECSTATE 143223

Classified By: Charge Wayne L. Bush, Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

¶1. (C) The Belgian government fully supports the idea of imposing autonomous EU sanctions on Iran, according to Walter Stevens, FM De Gucht's Chief of Staff. Charge relayed relevant points of reftel demarche to Stevens during a conversation on October 12, 2007. Although pressed specifically about the issue of export credits and halting new investment, Stevens refused to be drawn out on the types of sanctions De Gucht planned to support when he meets his EU colleagues at the GAERC on October 15.

¶2. (C) Belgium's Special Envoy for Nonproliferation told us separately that the Belgian government supported further action at the UNSC, and that they intended to announce this after receipt of the IAEA report and after Mr. Solana met again with Larijani. Bush

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